with an amount of an agent that inhibits CD44-facilitated entry of HIV into said cells sufficient to effect said inhibition.

9. The method according to claim 8 wherein said agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-CD44 antibody, soluble CD44, CD44 oligopeptides and hyaluronate.

10. The method according to claim 8 wherein said agent is a CD44 oligopeptide selected from the group consisting of CD44-1, CD44-2, CD44-3, CD44-4, CD44-5, CD44-6, CD44-6a, CD44-7, CD44-8, CD44-9, CD44-10, CD44-11, CD44-12, and CD44-13.

11. The method according to claim 8 wherein the agent is anti-CD44 antibody A3D8 ~~or A10S~~.

12. The method according to claim 8 wherein said agent is hyaluronate.

13. The method according to claim 8 wherein said ~~cells are~~ cells is a mononuclear ~~phagocytes~~ phagocyte.

14. The method according to claim 13 wherein said ~~phagocytes are~~ phagocyte is a human ~~monocytes~~ monocyte.

Concld. 15. The method according to claim 16 wherein said infection is HIV-1 infection.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 have been cancelled and new claims 8-15 have been added in lieu thereof. The new claims find support, for example, at pages 29-31 of the application and in Table 1.

Claims 1-3 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as allegedly being non-enabled. Cancellation of the claims renders the rejection moot.

Claims 1, 3 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as allegedly being obvious over Haynes et al (1989) in view of St. John et al. Cancellation of the claims renders the rejection moot.

Claims 4, 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 101 as the invention allegedly lacks utility. Withdrawal of the rejection is submitted to be in order in view of the above-noted claim revisions and for the reasons that follow.

The claims as now presented are drawn to a method of inhibiting HIV infection of cells susceptible to such infection (eg mononuclear phagocytes, for example, monocytes). The operability of this method should be clear from the data